(b) whether the SEZ Board is fully aware of such delibrate, post-approval manipulation by the SEZ operators;

(c) if so, what unambiguous steps and directions would be issued to ensure that SEZ operators do not violate the guidelines pertaining to the land areas; and

(d) the steps proposed to review permission granted to all the SEZs which exceed 1000 hectares in size?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRl JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government so far. The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) at its meeting held on 5th April, 2007 had *inter alia* decided to fix the upper limit of the area required for multi product SEZs at 5000 hectares with a provision that the State Governments may prescribed a lower limit. In the 234 formal approvals granted so far, none of the SEZs has an area over 5000 hectares and therefore, the question of reviewing permission granted in these 234 formal approvals does not arise. In cases where in principle approvals have been granted, the developers are required to submit proposals for formal approvals. The decision of the EGOM would be applicable to all these cases as well as new proposals received.

Holding up decision on SEZ proposals

4441. SHRl RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Board of Approval has put on hold the consideration of 111 SEZ proposals;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have decided to give due consideration to these proposals; and

(d) if so, the new criteria on which the approval is proposed to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRl JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Various issues concerning the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy have been considered by the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) and it has been decided that the pending applications for SEZs may be processed for in principle and formal approvals and notifications subject to the condition that the State Governments would not undertake any compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs. Further, it has been decided to fix the upper limit of the area required for multi product SEZs at 5000 hectares with the provision that the State Government may prescribed a lower limit and to fix the minimum processing area limit uniformly at 50% for multi product SEZs as well as sector specific SEZs.

Industrial parks in the country

4442. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrial parks set up in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to set up more industrial parks in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the industrial parks have lost their relevance after the launch of new schemes for industrial development; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) State-wise approval to developers of Industrial Park during each of the last three years are give in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) The Industrial Park Scheme, 2002 is an ongoing Scheme. As per the Scheme, Government do not set up Industrial Parks, instead approval is provided to the developer of Industrial Park to avail Income Tax benefits under section 80 lA of Income Tax Act, 1961.